

Senators have proposed changes to this bill, but they cannot change the underlying fact that it would be unconscionable to rip healthcare away from more than 32 million Americans. I implore the Senate to reject this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to work in a bipartisan manner to reduce costs and expand coverage.

TEXAS COACHES FIGHT HURRICANE HARVEY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, undaunted by the massive 50 inches of hammering rains and devastation of Hurricane Harvey, Texans quickly volunteered to help other water-soaked neighbors.

Bay City High School Secretary Linda Leissner was manning the city's emergency operations call center when she realized the city needed school buses and drivers to help in the rescue because of Harvey's quickly rising floodwaters, so she called the coaches. The coaches quickly manned the high school's buses, and in the torrential rain they began rescuing and evacuating residents of the town, including some of their very own students.

One of the coaches, Nathan Janak, put it best: "It was just people helping people. It was one of the greatest displays of human kindness I have ever seen."

Madam Speaker, stories like this make us Texas Proud and give us the determination to recover from one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history. Harvey will not defeat us. As we say, "Don't mess with Texas."

And that is just the way it is.

VIRGINIA INSTITUTE FOR PASTORAL CARE

(Mr. MCEACHIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Virginia Institute for Pastoral Care, also known as VIPCare.

In 1967, 12 concerned citizens founded VIPCare and built a unique, unprecedented organization that continues to serve our community, and several Virginians, today.

VIPCare is a not-for-profit, interfaith institution that provides marriage, family, and substance abuse counseling, as well as training and support for the clergy. They are the oldest pastoral counseling center in the United States.

VIPCare proudly serves more than 900 children, teenagers, adults, older Americans, families, and couples every year at their two locations in Richmond and the six other locations throughout Virginia. VIPCare does not turn people away, regardless of the cost. For 50 years, they have provided

thousands with a community space for compassion, hope, and comfort.

Madam Speaker, today, and every day, I am so proud of VIPCare and the work they do to care for Virginians.

RECOGNIZING ELLIOTT ROOT

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent from the 22nd District of New York, Elliott Root.

Elliott was born with a single left ventricle and has prevailed over tremendous odds in his short life. At the young age of 10 years old, Elliott will undergo his fifth open-heart surgery this week.

Today, I wear the Red Balloon pin in honor of Elliott's courage and strength. Throughout the Red Balloon Campaign, Elliott and his mother, Amy, have worked tirelessly to raise awareness and create an atmosphere of connectivity for all impacted by heart defects.

Congenital heart defects are the most prevalent birth defect, affecting 1 in 100 newborns, leading to the death of more children each year than all forms of pediatric cancer combined. Despite these staggering statistics, congenital heart defects continue to be underrecognized and underfunded.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Elliott and his entire family as he undergoes his fifth open-heart surgery. Elliott's enduring spirit and bravery are an inspiration to all of us. Please join me in celebrating the life of this courageous young man.

REPUBLICANS SHOULD WORK WITH DEMOCRATS TO CREATE BETTER HEALTHCARE

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to express my opposition to the newest TrumpCare bill that will result in 21 million fewer Americans having healthcare insurance.

Once again, Senate Republicans, like House Republicans, are rushing to pass a hurtful bill that every major healthcare group, from the American Medical Association to Kaiser, is opposing.

The latest heartless version of TrumpCare is no different than the previous plans because it still leaves many in the cold. As the old saying goes, it is like putting lipstick on a pig, as the bill still allows States to eliminate essential healthcare benefits like ER visits, preventative screenings, and prescription drug coverage.

This misguided plan also guts Medicaid, at a loss of \$4 billion in Federal funds to Ohio—my State—and allows insurers to charge seniors and people

with preexisting health conditions more money for less coverage.

Now it is time to stand together and hold strong with Senator JOHN MCCAIN and the Governors of Ohio, Nevada, and other States. Republicans should work with Democrats to create a better deal, better jobs, better healthcare, and a better future for all Americans.

CONGRATULATING ABBOTT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to recognize and congratulate the Abbott High School baseball team on being this year's Division 1A State champions.

Located in Abbott, Texas, this small town high school has defied the odds. Since opening its doors in 1886, this is the first time the baseball program has earned the title of State champions.

Just last week, I visited the Panthers, as well as Principal Pustejovsky and Head Coach Crawford. It was an honor to meet them and these young Americans and be able to congratulate them on a hard-earned victory.

As a former baseball player myself, it is inspiring to watch a new wave of students become interested in America's favorite pastime. These boys are bright and eager to do their best by giving 110 percent at all times, and that is the kind of spirit we need in this country.

In a time when we are finally recovering from the last 8 years of turmoil, kids like these are exactly the driving force behind what will make this country great again.

Madam Speaker, as long as I am up here in Washington, I am committed to continuing to fight for our Nation's future generations.

I am proud to represent the black and gold in the 25th Congressional District of Texas, and I look forward to watching their baseball careers unfold.

And, remember, keep your head over the plate, swing as hard as you can, and always look fastball.

In God we trust.

□ 1915

HELEN HUYNH FIGHTING LEUKEMIA

(Mr. LOWENTHAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, last week, people across the Nation and around the world heard the heart-wrenching story of my constituent, Helen Huynh.

Helen is bravely fighting leukemia. She desperately needs a stem cell transplant, which requires a compatible match. Helen's sister, Thuy, is a 100 percent match, but she lives in Vietnam. She has been denied a visa to come to the United States for this potentially lifesaving procedure. She has been denied now three times.